Geographic Information System Analysis Methods using the Habitat Priority Planner for Mobile Bay Conservation Planning (2008-2010)

and

Instructions for Preparing Data Layers for the Online Habitat Mapper

For internal use by project partners. Documented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Coastal Services Center.

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Introduction

In 2009, the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) partnered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center (the Center), NOAA's Office of Habitat Conservation, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to update local habitat conservation priorities in Alabama. The partnership worked with MBNEP's local stakeholder group, the Coastal Habitats Coordinating Team (CHCT), which includes over 60 state and local representatives concerned with habitat protection in coastal Alabama. The project focused on prioritizing habitat patches for conservation in Mobile and Baldwin counties in order to guide and inform the habitat protection efforts of these organizations.

This document is intended to provide members of the project team with an overview of the process, so that they have a basic framework for the Geographic Information System (GIS) analysis process for future habitat assessments. This document includes:

- Background information on the project for Mobile and Baldwin counties.
- Summary of the participatory GIS portion of the process.
- Review of the data and steps used to perform the GIS analysis using the Center's Habitat Priority Planner (HPP) ArcGIS software extension.
- Instructions for preparing the data for an online conservation planning tool, called Habitat Mapper. (This tool was developed as part of this project to allow members of the public to access and explore the GIS analysis results.)

Geospatial Process

The project team chose the Center's HPP tool to help prioritize habitats for protection. The HPP tool is an ArcGIS extension designed to help intermediate GIS users prioritize habitats for conservation, restoration, or land-use decisions. (To download this free tool or find out more about it, go to http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/hpp/.)

To organize the geospatial analysis, the project team followed a process by which participants determined their goals, developed objectives for each goal, and then considered selection criteria that would help to narrow down and prioritize habitat patches for conservation. This process involved stakeholder interaction, local data mining and assembly, geospatial analysis, and stakeholder review and refinement of the geospatial analysis through a participatory GIS process.

The project team worked with the CHCT to help direct the GIS analysis; the primary steps with the CHCT where initiated in the three meetings described on the following page.

Meeting 1: Demonstrating the Tool and Identifying Initial Criteria (December 2008)

The project team provided a demonstration of the HPP tool to the CHCT in Mobile, Alabama. Meeting participants discussed habitat protection goals and objectives, and they also identified initial criteria for selecting priority habitat patches for 10 habitat types. Additionally, the CHCT reaffirmed and refined the habitat protection goals for those 10 habitat types:

- Freshwater Wetlands
- Rivers and Streams (analyzed using watersheds)
- Riparian Buffer
- Beach and Dune
- Intertidal Marshes and Flats

- Sub Aquatic Vegetation
- Oyster Reefs
- Longleaf Pine
- Pine Savannah
- Maritime Forest

Following this stakeholder meeting, staff from the Center and TNC inventoried available local data—based on the goals and selection criteria identified—in order to identify data for the GIS analysis. Gap Analysis Program (GAP) land cover data (from 2001) was chosen as the base data, because it contains habitat types that are important to the CHCT. To have the most up-to-date view of the available habitat, the GAP data was updated using developed land cover classes from NOAA's 2005 Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) data. Once this large, data gathering effort was complete, staff from the Center and TNC completed an initial HPP analysis for each of the 10 habitat type goals using the objectives and selection criteria discussed during the December meeting.

Meeting 2: Refining Selection Criteria (April 2009)

The project partners met with the CHCT in Mobile to show the results of the initial HPP analysis and to get additional input on the selection criteria. HPP's participatory GIS module (the Data Explorer) was used to show the analysis results and make on-the-fly modifications to the analysis as stakeholders provided input. This process allowed participants to refine the selection criteria used to identify priority habitats for conservation. CHCT members also verified that the appropriate GAP land cover classes were being used for each habitat goal. After this meeting, staff from the Center and TNC revised the HPP analysis based on the new input.

Meeting 3: Reviewing Habitat Priority Planner Outputs (June 2009)

The refined HPP results were shown to the CHCT during three webinars, and then staff from the Center and TNC produced the final outputs (based on the feedback from the webinars). These outputs—along with supporting data—were incorporated into the Alabama Habitat Mapper, an online conservation planning tool created by the Center so that the MBNEP, CHCT, and other stakeholders could view and interact with the prioritized habitat patches and ancillary data sets.

Interested parties may obtain a DVD containing all data used for the GIS analysis by contacting: Roberta Swann, Director of MBNEP 4172 Commanders Drive Mobile, AL 36615 (251) 431-6409 rswann@mobilebaynep.com

The remainder of this document includes a brief overview of the geospatial analysis process, followed by appendixes that explain the process in greater detail. The appendixes contain a spatial analysis summary table, step-by-step instructions for how HPP was used, a final map layout for each habitat goal identified by the CHCT, and instructions for preparing the data for the Habitat Mapper.

Geospatial Analysis Overview

Habitat Prioritization Analysis

The first step in the geospatial analysis was to create the proper base data for the 10 habitat goals identified by the CHCT. As mentioned previously, the chosen base data used 2001 GAP land cover data that had been updated with the 2005 C-CAP land cover data.

The following statements (extracted from the metadata of the land cover file) describe the base data that was used for all of the HPP GIS analysis:

- 2001_gap_land_cover.img All GAP land cover categories present in Mobile and Baldwin counties in 2001 rescaled to classes 1-34.
- gap_update_2005_impervious.img Developed categories from 2005 C-CAP were inserted into the 2001 GAP layer. This captures changes from natural areas to developed in the GAP map between 2001 and 2005. Developed categories may be different in existing developed areas in the GAP map because C-CAP used a different threshold on the percent impervious layer.
- 2005_change_mask.img This is a binary change mask between the 2001 and 2005 C-CAP maps. This can be used to indicate natural areas that may have changed in the GAP map.

Once the base data was established, the next step was to use the HPP tool to perform the habitat prioritization analysis for each of the 10 habitat goals (using the selection criteria identified by the CHCT). The details of this analysis are available in Appendix A, which includes the following components for the 10 habitat goals:

1. Summary Table: A table summarizing the CHCT's analytical process for each habitat goal; the process allowed the group to focus in on specific habitat patches that met a variety of selection criteria. The summary table identifies the habitat protection goal, the protection objectives (specific characteristics of the habitat that are considered important), and a set of spatial selection criteria for each objective. (For example, if the goal is to conserve wetland habitat, one objective might be to focus on a minimum habitat size. The corresponding selection criteria for that example objective might be to focus on wetland habitat patches of at least 20 acres.) Additionally, the summary table includes (1) the data sets that were used to analyze each objective according to the selection criteria, and (2) additional data sets that were included in the Habitat Mapper as ancillary data that could be viewed alongside the prioritized habitats. These additional data sets were not used for analysis, but they were identified by the CHCT as having important relationships to the habitats.

- 2. **Instructions:** Step—by-step instructions on how HPP was used to perform the geospatial analysis. (These instructions are specific to the 2009 HPP analysis; the file naming conventions reflect the objectives and selection criteria of this analysis. Be aware that future HPP analyses may use different names from those shown in this document, in order to reflect the criteria that is specific to the new analyses.
- 3. **Priority Habitat Map:** A map layout showing the final priority habitats for each of the 10 habitat types (as determined by the objectives and selection criteria chosen by the CHCT members for the 2009 HPP analysis).

Preparing Data for Alabama Habitat Mapper

To bring the analysis data into the Habitat Mapper for viewing, four steps needed to be completed:

- 1. **Identifying Priority Habitat Relative to County Parcels:** Geospatial data representing parcels in Mobile and Baldwin Counties were obtained from each county, and then the HPP tool results were used to approximate the amount of priority habitat in each 2009 land parcel. (See Appendix B for more details.) Parcel data shown in the Habitat Mapper provides the Parcel ID Number and the amount of priority habitat associated with each parcel, for use as an initial screening-level assessment for conservation and land use planners. For additional information on the parcels, either contact Mobile or Baldwin County directly or use parcel information available on the web.
- 2. **Merging All Priority Habitats Together:** An additional data layer was created that merges into a single layer all of the priority habitat patches indentified by the CHCT selection criteria. (See Appendix C for more details.)
- 3. Loading Data into a Spatial Data Engine (SDE) Database: A SDE database was created to store all of the HPP analysis results and additional data layers to be viewed in the Habitat Mapper. Appendix D provides details on how the data was loaded into SDE and set to the same geographic projection as the base data (ESRI street, hybrid, and imagery) for the Habitat Mapper.
- 4. **Generating Aliases:** In order to make the Habitat Mapper easy to use for people without a GIS background, simpler names (that is, aliases) were created for the table of contents and attribute fields. Appendix E lists all of the layer names (that is, aliases) displayed in the Habitat Mapper table of contents, the original layer file names used for the analysis, the aliases for the attributes displayed in the Habitat Mapper, and the original names of the attribute fields from the analysis.

Future Updates to the Alabama Habitat Mapper

In the future MBNEP and the CHCT may decide to update the Habitat Mapper as new or updated data become available—or if their conservation goals and priorities change. The *Habitat Mapper Technical Design and Maintenance* document provides instructions for updating the Habitat Mapper with new data. For more information on this document, contact:

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Appendix A: Habitat Analysis Details

Freshwater Wetlands

Summary Table for Freshwater Wetlands

Goal: Identify priority freshwater wetland habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify riverine, freshwater wetland habitat		Unique classification for riverine, wetlands only; do not include non-riverine in analysis.	Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img)	Boat ramps and marinas (ramp_marina_srvy_03.shp)
Identify non- riverine, freshwater wetland habitat		Simple classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img)	Non-riverine wetlands (non_riverine_wetlands.shp)
Habitats should be a minimum size	1–10 hectares	Size	Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img)	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)
Habitats should be a certain distance from developed areas	1 kilometer or more from development	Distance to	Medium- and high- intensity developed areas (dev_med_high.shp)	The Nature Conservancy (TNC) aquatic and terrestrial priority areas (TNC_aquatic_priority.shp, TNC_terr_priority.shp)

Explanation of Analysis for Freshwater Wetlands

- The Coastal Habitats Coordinating Team (CHCT) chose to isolate non-riverine freshwater wetlands, including treeless savannah and wet prairie, cypress domes, and basin swamps. (Many of these habitats are small and isolated; if they were analyzed among larger, more dominant riverine classes, they would have been eliminated.) With these habitats, the CHCT chose to use a simple classification that effectively lumps them together into a single habitat type: non-riverine, freshwater wetlands.
- The CHCT performed a unique classification on the riverine, freshwater wetlands, which includes floodplain forests and tidal swamps. The unique classification allows each wetland type to be preserved individually.
 - o Only riverine, freshwater wetlands between 1–10 hectares were analyzed. Many of the very large patches of this habitat are already protected, so the focus was shifted to smaller habitats. The CHCT determined that based on the scale of the base data (30 meters), 1 hectare was the minimum appropriate size to consider.
 - Only riverine, freshwater wetlands at least 1 kilometer from developed areas were analyzed. The thought behind this decision was that these would be the healthiest habitats to conserve.

The CHCT felt that boat ramps, marinas, and TNC priority areas were interesting to
examine with the freshwater wetland habitats and could help make decisions about which
habitats to choose for a project. These data sets were not be used for analysis, but they
were made available in the Habitat Mapper so that users could examine them alongside
the prioritized freshwater wetlands.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Freshwater Wetlands

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 Gap Analysis Program (GAP) land cover updated with Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) Medium- and high-intensity developed areas (dev_med_high.shp) 	 Boat ramps and marinas (ramp_marina_srvy_03.shp) Non-riverine wetlands (non_riverine_wetlands.shp) Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp) TNC priority aquatic areas (TNC_aquatic_priority.shp) TNC priority terrestrial areas (TNC_terr_priority.shp)

Step 1: Habitat Classification (Habitat Priority Planner (HPP) Module 1)

1. Classify Non-riverine, Freshwater Wetlands.

Note: The CHCT determined that all non-riverine, freshwater wetlands are considered priority, so they will all be shown in the results (that is, no habitat prioritization analysis needed to be performed on non-riverine, freshwater wetlands).

- a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
- b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
- c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
- d. Select the Classification Type *Simple*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 27 Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Basin Swamp
 - 30 Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Cypress Dome
 - 32 Treeless Savannah and Wet Prairie Click *Next*.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as *non_riverine_wetlands* and click *Finish*.
- 2. Classify Riverine, Freshwater Wetlands.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 24 East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest Forest Modifier
 - 25 East Gulf Coastal Plain Small Stream and River Floodplain Forest
 - 26 Southern Coastal Plain Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
 - 31 East Gulf Coastal Plain Tidal Wooded Swamp
 - 33 East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest Herbaceous Modifier

Click Next.

e. Save result as *riverine_wetlands_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *riverine_wetlands_mod1*. Choose distance units: *meters*.

Choose area units: hectares.

Click Next.

- Landscape analyses: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat. not applicable Click *Next*.
- c. Click *New* to add a Custom Analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *dev_med_high*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_dev_mh*.
 Click *OK*.

d. Save result as *riverine_wetlands_mod2*.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map Layer dropdown menu, choose *riverine_wetlands_mod2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *area_hectare*.

Select *1–10 hectares*.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose distance to dev_med_high.

Select 1000 meters or greater.

Insert an AND statement.

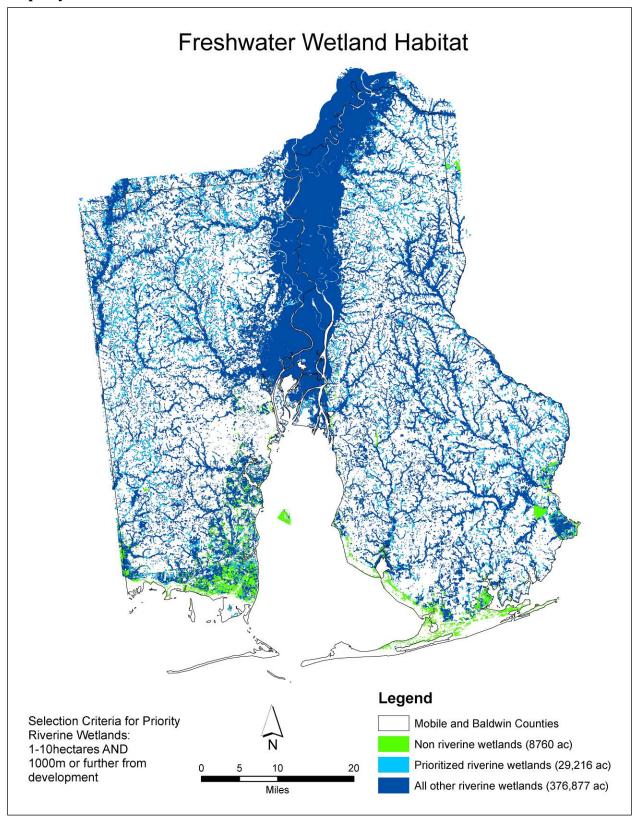
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- 3. Save result as *priority_riverine_wetlands_1*.
- 4. Click OK.

Map Layout for Freshwater Wetlands



Streams and Rivers

Summary Table for Streams and Rivers

Goal: Identify priority streams and rivers (via watershed analysis).

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
С	onservation '	Track = Less tha	n 10 percent impervious	s surface
Identify watersheds to the 12-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC) in Mobile and Baldwin counties		Unique classification	12-digit HUC watersheds (huc12.shp)	Drinking water supply sites (drinkwater_supply_site.shp)
Identify 12-digit HUC watersheds with less than 10% impervious surface	0–9%	Polygon overlay	Impervious surface (impervious_2001.shp)	TNC aquatic and terrestrial priority areas (TNC_aquatic_priority.shp, TNC_terr_priority.shp)
Identify watersheds that contain impaired streams (that is, those that are listed in accordance with section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act)	FALSE	Presence/ absence	303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)	Wellhead protected areas (Wellhd_Protect_area.shp)
Identify number of dams in watershed				Dam locations (dams.shp)
	Restoration	on Track = 10-2	5 percent impervious sur	face
Identify watersheds to the 12-digit HUC in Mobile and Baldwin counties		Unique classification	12-digit HUC watersheds (huc12.shp)	Drinking water supply sites (drinkwater_supply_site.shp)
Identify 12-digit HUC watersheds with 10–25% impervious surface	10–25%	Polygon overlay	Impervious surface (impervious_2001.shp)	
Identify watersheds that contain impaired streams (303(d) listed)	TRUE	Presence/ absence	303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)	

Explanation of Analysis for Streams and Rivers

• The CHCT decided to apply a commonly used delineatrion—12-digit HUC watersheds—as a proxy to locate priority streams for habitat protection and restoration. Conditions within the entire watershed impact the health of a stream.

- The CHCT looked at watershed priorities in two ways:
 - o For the conservation track, a low impervious surface (0-9 percent) throughout the watershed was an important way to identify healthy habitat, which translates to healthy streams and rivers. Additionally, the CHCT wanted to locate watersheds that did not contain any 303(d) listed streams (that is, those that are identified as impaired according the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Water Act).
 - o For the restoration track, the CHCT needed to identify unhealthy habitat, so they searched for watersheds that contained (1) a moderate amount (10–25 percent) of impervious surface, and (2) impaired streams. (It is generally accepted in literature that this quantity of impervious surface in a watershed begins to have a negative impact on streams and rivers.)
- Several additional data sets were identified as useful for decision making, but too narrowing for analysis purposes. These data sets included dam locations, drinking water supply sites, wellhead protections areas, and TNC priority areas; they are available in the Habitat Mapper so that users can examine them alongside prioritized habitats.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Streams and Rivers

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
• 12-digit HUC watersheds (huc12.shp)	Dam locations (dams.shp)
 Impervious surface (impervious_2001.shp) 	 Drinking water supply sites (drinkwater_supply_site.shp)
• 303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)	 Wellhead protection areas (Wellhd_Protect_area.shp)
	 TNC priority aquatic areas (TNC_aquatic_priority.shp)
	 TNC priority terrestrial areas (TNC_terr_priority.shp)

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Watersheds.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *huc12*. Select the Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*. Click *Next*.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.

- d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check all the land cover class boxes.
- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as watersheds_mod1 and Click Finish.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *watersheds_mod1*.

Choose distance units: *meters*.

Choose area units: hectares.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analyses: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.

Click Next.

- c. Click New to add a Custom Analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *impervious_2001*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *PO_impervious_pct*. Click *OK*.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *presence/absence*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *mob_bal_303d_line*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *PA_303dstreams*. Click *OK*
- d. Save results as watersheds_mod2.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

- 1. Conservation Track
 - a. From the Map Layer dropdown menu, choose *watersheds_mod2*.

From the Field dropdown menu, choose *PO_impervious_pct*.

Select 0-9%.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click *Apply*.

b. From the Field dropdown menu, choose PA 303dstreams.

Select false.

Insert an AND statement.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click *Apply*.

- c. Save result as conservation watersheds.
- d. Click OK.

2. Restoration Track

a. From the Map Layer dropdown menu, choose $watersheds_mod2$.

From the Field dropdown menu, choose *PO_impervious*.

Select 10-25%.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

b. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *PA_303dstreams*.

Select true.

Insert an AND statement.

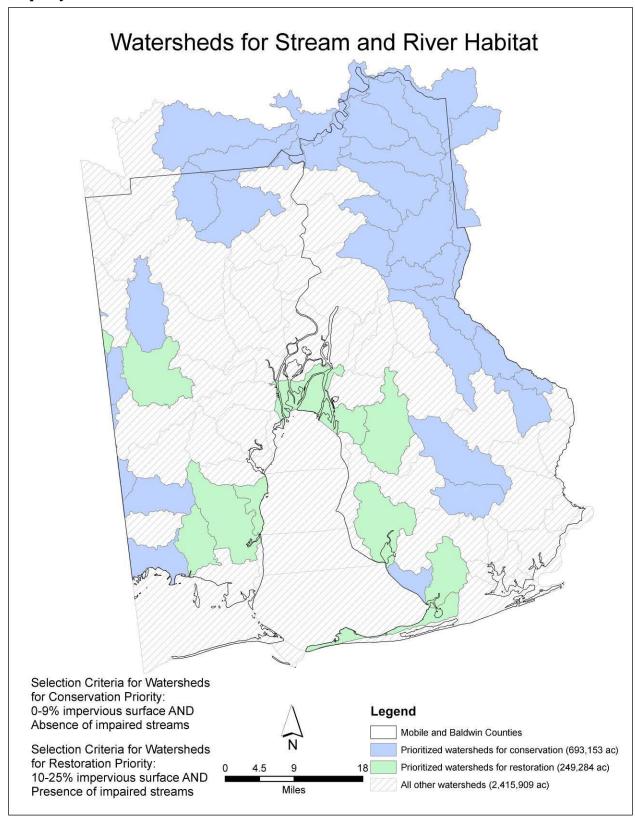
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- c. Save result as *restoration_watersheds*.
- d. Click OK.

Map Layout for Streams and Rivers



Riparian Buffer

Summary Table for Riparian Buffer

Goal: Identify priority riparian buffer habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Conserva	tion Track =	Intact riparian l	ouffers within priority conser	vation watersheds
Identify riparian buffer (30-meter buffer on either side of stream)		30-meter buffer; mask GAP data; grouped classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img) Streams and rivers (All_Water_Alabama_Clip.shp)	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)
Identify intact buffer	Intact		Grouped habitat layer (grouped_30m_buf_mod2.shp)	
Identify sections of continuous intact buffer habitat	500 meters x 30 meters = 15,000 square meters		Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img) Streams and rivers (All_Water_Alabama_Clip.shp)	303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)
Identify intact buffer within priority conservation watersheds	50% or greater overlay	Polygon overlay	Priority watersheds for conservation (conservation_watersheds.shp)	
Restoration Tr	ack = Intact	and impaired rip	parian buffers within priority	restoration watersheds
Identify riparian buffer (30-meter buffer on either side of stream)		30-meter buffer; mask GAP data; grouped classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img) Streams and rivers (All_Water_Alabama_Clip.shp)	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)
Identify intact and impaired buffer	Intact OR impaired		Grouped habitat layer (grouped_30m_buf_mod2.shp)	
Identify sections of intact and impaired buffer habitat	500 meters x 30 meters = 15,000 square meters		Land cover (gap_update_2005_ impervious.img) Streams and rivers (All_Water_Alabama_Clip.shp)	303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)
Identify intact buffer within priority restoration watersheds	50% or greater overlay	Polygon overlay	Priority watersheds for restoration (restoration_watersheds.shp)	

Explanation of Analysis for Riparian Buffer

- The CHCT determined that, like the Watersheds for Streams and Rivers goal, priority riparian buffer habitat should have both a conservation and restoration track. For both tracks, a 30-meter area on either side of streams and rivers was identified as the focus area.
 - o For the conservation track, the CHCT decided that the most important component of stream buffers was to have intact vegetation to prevent erosion, sedimentation, and warmer water temperatures. Intact vegetation includes all classes of the GAP land cover data that are naturally vegetated. In addition to intact vegetation, the CHCT wanted to identify buffers that were also (1) at least 500 meters long, and (2) associated with watersheds identified as priorities for conservation.
 - o For the restoration track, the CHCT sought intact or impaired buffers that were at least 500 meters long. (Impaired habitat describes land cover that is not in a natural state, but could be restored. For example, habitat that is classified as Open Developed Space, such as a golf course or park.) Additionally, the buffers needed to be associated with watersheds identified as priorities for restoration.
- Additional datasets (including those for protected lands and impaired streams) were identified as important and included in the Habitat Mapper so that users can examine them alongside prioritized habitats.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Riparian Buffer

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) 	• 303(d) listed streams (mob_bal_303d_line.shp)
 Priority watersheds for conservation (conservation_watersheds.shp) 	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)
 Priority watersheds for restoration (restoration_watersheds.shp) 	 Alabama streams and rivers (All_Water_Alabama_Clip.shp)
	 Grouped habitat layer (grouped_30m_buf_mod2.shp)

Step 1: Pre-processing

- 1. The Alabama streams and rivers file was buffered by 30 meters on each side using the Buffer tool in the ArcGIS toolbox.
- 2. A mask was applied to the land cover data (GAP and C-CAP) with the 30-meter stream buffer.
- 3. This subset of the land cover data was used as the primary input to the Classify Habitats module of HPP (*gap_extract.img*).

Step 2: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Riparian Buffers.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *gap_extract.img*. Select the Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*. Click *Next*.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *value*.
 The Description field is not applicable for this classification.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type Grouped. In the Habitat Groups box, double click to add a new group. Create three groups named Intact, Impaired, and Developed. Drag and drop land cover classes into each group according to the list below and Click Next.

Intact:

- 7 Florida Panhandle Beach Vegetation
- 10 Unconsolidated Shore (Lake/River/Pond)
- 11 Unconsolidated Shore (Beach/Dune)
- 12 East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Mesic Slope Forest
- 13 East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland Offsite Hardwood Modifier
- 15 East Gulf Coastal Plain Maritime Forest
- 16 East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland Loblolly Modifier
- 17 East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland Open Understory Modifier
- 20 Successional Shrub/Scrub (Other)
- 21 East Gulf Coastal Plain Dune and Coastal Grassland
- 24 East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest Forest Modifier
- 25 East Gulf Coastal Plain Small Stream and River Floodplain Forest
- 26 Southern Coastal Plain Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
- 27 Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Basin Swamp
- 28 East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods Offsite Hardwood Modifier
- 29 East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods Open Understory Modifier
- 30 Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Cypress Dome
- 31 East Gulf Coastal Plain Tidal Wooded Swamp
- 32 East Gulf Coastal Plain Treeless Savanna and Wet Prairie
- 33 East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest Herbaceous Modifier
- 34 Mississippi Sound Salt and Brackish Tidal Marsh

Impaired:

3 - Developed Open Space

- 8 Bare Soil
- 14 Evergreen Plantations
- 18 Successional Shrub/Scrub (Clear Cut)
- 19 Successional Shrub/Scrub (Utility Swath)
- 22 Pasture/Hay
- 23 Row Crop

Developed:

- 4 Low Intensity Developed
- 5 Medium Intensity Developed
- 6 High Intensity Developed
- 9 Quarry/Strip Mine/Gravel Pit
- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as *grouped_30m_buffer* and Click *Finish*.

Step 3: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose grouped_30m_buffer.

Choose distance units: meters.

Choose area units: hectares.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.

Click Next.

- c. Click New to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *conservation_watersheds*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *Po_con_wat*.
 Click *OK*.
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *restoration_watersheds*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_rest_wat*.
 Click *OK*.
- e. Save result as grouped 30m buf mod2.

Step 4: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

- 1. Conservation Track
 - a. From the Map Layer dropdown menu, choose *grouped_30m_buf_mod2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *class name*.

Select intact.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

b. From the Field dropdown menu, choose area_size.

Select 15,000 square meters or larger.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

c. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *poly_over_cons_watshds_Pct*.

Select 50% or more.

Insert an AND statement.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- d. Save result as cons_buffers_final.
- e. Click OK.

2. Restoration Track

- a. Step 1:
 - i. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *poly_over_cons_watshds_Pct*.

Select 50% or more.

Insert an AND statement.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- ii. Save result as *rest_buf_mod3*.
- iii. Click OK.

b. Step 2:

i. From the Map Layer dropdown menu, choose *rest_buf_mod3*.

From the Field dropdown menu, choose area_size.

Select 15,000 square meters or larger.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click *Apply*.

Insert an AND statement.

ii. From the Field dropdown menu, choose class name.

Select intact.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an *OR* statement.

iii. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *class name*. Select *impaired*.

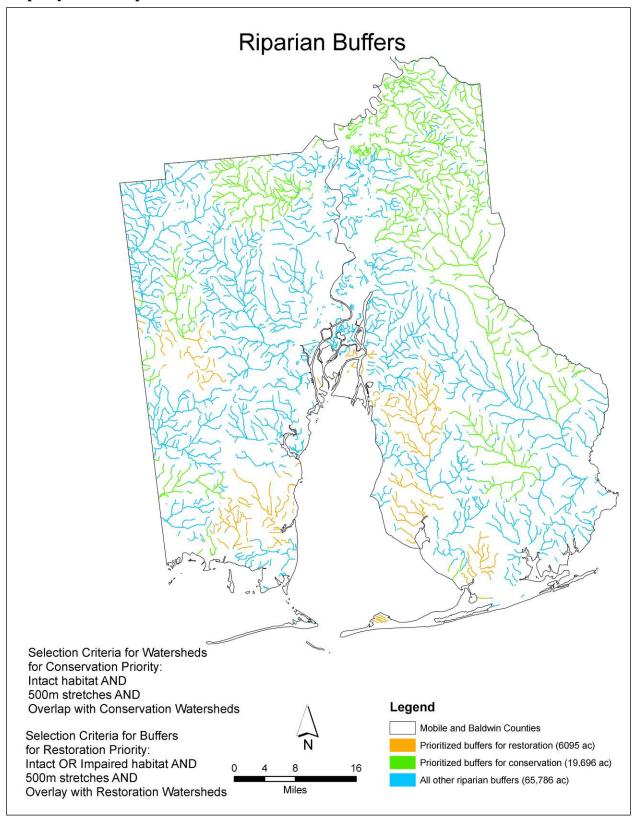
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- iv. Save result as rest_buffers_final.
- v. Click OK.

Map Layout for Riparian Buffer



Beach and Dune

Summary Table for Beach and Dune

Goal: Identify priority beach and dune habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify beach and dune adjacent to maritime forests	Within 1 mile	Distance to	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) Maritime forest habitat (GP_maritime_mod2_june_run2)	
Identify beach and dune beyond the construction control line	Overlap of 50%	Polygon overlay	Construction control line (cclddline1.shp)	
Identify beach and dune that contain specific threatened and endangered species	TRUE	Presence/ absence AND used for both species	Alabama Beach Mouse habitat (ABM_Habitat_Range.shp) Sea turtle nesting areas (Sea_Turtle.shp)	

Explanation of Analysis for Beach and Dune

- The CHCT wanted to identify beach and dune habitat that was adjacent to maritime forest to ensure the stability of the habitat. Additionally, they wanted to locate habitat that was:
 - o Located at least partially beyond the construction control line, because beach beyond this line is already protected by regulations associated with this boundary.
 - Identified as habitat suitable for two species of concern. The habitat had to be suitable for both the Alabama beach mouse and for sea turtles (when they are nesting).
- No additional data was identified for inclusion in the Habitat Mapper.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Beach and Dune

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
 Alabama Beach Mouse (ABM_Habitat_Range.shp) 	
• Sea turtle data (Sea_Turtle.shp)	
• Construction control line (cclddline1.shp)	
 Maritime forest (GP_maritime_mod2_june_run2) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Beach and Dune.
 - a. Select Create a new habitat patch file.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 7 Florida Panhandle Beach Vegetation
 - 11 Unconsolidated Shore
 - 21 East Gulf Coastal Plain Dune and Coastal Grass Click *Next*.
 - e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
 - f. Save results as *beachdune_mod1* and Click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *beachdune_mod1*.

Choose distance units: feet.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.

Click Next.

- c. Click New to add a Custom analysis:
 - From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *presence/absence*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *ABM_Habitat_Range*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *pa_ABM_Hab_Range*.
 Click *OK*.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *cclddline1*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *Polygon_Overlay_CCL_Clipper_Pct*.

Click OK.

- iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *presence/absence*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *Sea_Turtle*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *Presence_Absence_Sea_Turtle*. Click *OK*.
- iv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_maritime_mod2_june_run2*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_maritime_simple_mod1*.
 Click *OK*.
- v. Save result as **Beach_Dune_mod2**.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *Beach_Dune_mod2*.

From the Field dropdown menu, choose PA_ABM_Hab_Range.

Select true.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *PA_Sea_Turtle*.

Select true.

Insert an *OR* statement.

Click *Add Selection to Query*.

Click Verify.

Click *Apply*.

3. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *Poly_Over_CCL_Clipper_Pct*.

Select 0-50%.

Insert an AND statement.

Click *Add Selection to Query*.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

4. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *dt_mari_simple_mod1*.

Select *0–5280 feet*.

Insert an AND statement.

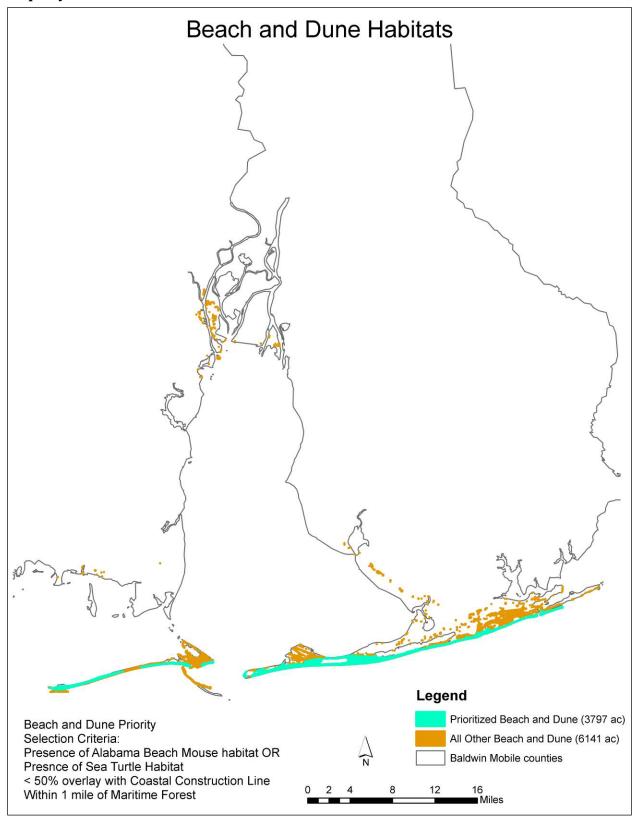
Click *Add Selection to Query*.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- 5. Save results as **BeachDune_mod3_update**.
- 6. Click OK.

Map Layout for Beach and Dune



Intertidal Marshes and Flats

Summary Table for Intertidal Marshes and Flats

Goal: Identify priority intertidal marshes and flats.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Hazar	d Protection	Track = Area	ns close to development ar	nd 100-year flood.
Identify intertidal marsh close to developed areas	0-100 feet (approx. 30 meters)	Distance to	Developed lands (developed.shp)	
Identify areas that provide protection from 100-year flood	Distance to flood – 500 feet	Distance to	Flood data (year_flood.shp)	
Natural Resour	Natural Resource Conservation Track = Areas close to currently protected lands that contain species of concern.			
Identify marshes that coincide with species of concern	0–100 feet (approx. 30 meters)	Presence/ absence	Species of concern (Species_of_concern.shp) Note: Shapefile combines Alabama Beach Mouse habitat, sea turtle nesting areas, 1995 and 2001 delineated oyster reefs, and Sub Aquatic Vegetation (SAV).	Alabama Beach Mouse Habitat (ABM_Habitat_Range.shp) Sea turtle nesting areas (Sea_Turtle.shp) 1995 and 2001 delineated oyster reefs (oyster.shp) SAV habitat (SAV_Mod2.shp)
Identify marshes that are close to currently protected lands	0–500 feet	Distance to	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	

Explanation of Analysis for Intertidal Marshes and Flats

- The CHCT decided to focus on two important aspects of intertidal marshes and flats: protection from hazards and for natural resource conservation.
 - o For the hazard protection track, they wanted to locate intertidal marshes and flats that were close to developed areas, and would therefore act as a buffer for flooding and storm surges. They also wanted to locate intertidal marshes and flats that were within 500 feet of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's 100year flood plain.
 - o For the natural resource conservation track, they wanted to identify intertidal marshes and flats that were (1) within 100 feet of species of concern (beach mouse, sea turtle, oysters, and SAV), and (2) close to protected areas (in the hope that the species would continue to expand into the protected areas in the future).

• Individual data sets representing species of concern are available in the Habitat Mapper for users to view alongside the prioritized habitats.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Intertidal Marshes and Flats

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) 	 Alabama Beach Mouse habitat (ABM_Habitat_Range.shp)
Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	 Sea turtle nesting areas (Sea_Turtle.shp)
Developed Lands (developed.shp)	• 1995 and 2001 delineated oyster reefs (oyster.shp)
Flood Data (year_flood.shp)	
 Species of Concern - Alabama beach mouse, oysters, SAV, sea turtles (Species_of_concern.shp) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Intertidal Marshes and Flats.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.

 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.

 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check the box next to the following land cover class:

34 – Intertidal Wetlands (Mississippi Sound Salt and Brackish Tidal Marsh) Click *Next*.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as *intertidal mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod1*.

Choose distance units: *feet*. Choose area units: *acres*. Click *Next*.

 Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.
 Click Next.

- c. Click *New* to add a Custom Analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *developed*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *DT_dev*.
 Click *OK*.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *year_flood*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_100_yr_flood*. Click *OK*.
 - iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *presence/absence*.From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *Species_of_concern*.From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *pa_species_of_con*.Click *OK*.
 - iv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *sistance to*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *prot_land_mob_bald*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_prot_land_Mob_Bald*. Click *OK*.
- e. Save result as *intertidal_mod2_update2*.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

- 1. Hazard Protection Track
 - a. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod2_update2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *DT_dev*. Select *0-100 feet*.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

b. From the Field dropdown menu, choose dt_100_yr_flood.

Select 500 feet or greater

Insert an AND statement.

Click *Add Selection to Query*.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

c. Save result as *intertidal_mod3_dev*.

d. Click OK.

2. Natural Resource Conservation Track

a. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod2_update2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *PA_spec_of_con*. Select *true*.

Click *Add Selection to Query*. Click *Apply*.

b. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *dt_prot_land_Mob_Bald*. Select *0–500 feet*.

Insert an AND statement.

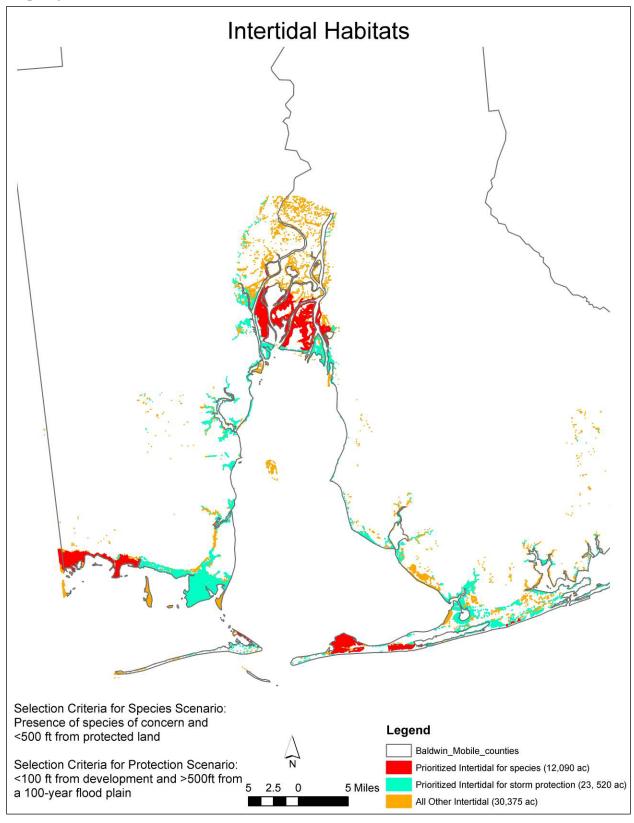
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- c. Save result as *intertidal_mod3_species*.
- d. Click OK.

Map Layout for Intertidal Marshes and Flats



Sub Aquatic Vegetation

Summary Table for Sub Aquatic Vegetation

Goal: Identify priority sub aquatic vegetation habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify the locations and type of SAV	Prioritize brackish and freshwater SAV; just view marine SAV		Benthic data that includes SAV (Benthic_draft_4-13-09.shp)	Marine SAV (Marine_SAV.shp)
Identify invasive SAV				Invasive SAV (SAV_invasive_shp_1.shp)
Identify SAV near dredge areas	Greater than 1 mile (5,280– 90,000 feet)	Distance to	Dredge locations (Dredge.shp)	
Identify SAV near boat ramps and marinas	Greater than 1 mile (5,280– 90,000 feet)	Distance to	Boat ramps and marinas (ramp_marina_srvy_03.shp)	
Identify SAV near currently protected lands	Within 2 miles (1–10,560 feet)	Distance to	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	
Identify water depth ideal for SAV growth	2 meters or less (for viewing only)			Bathymetry (bathy_vect.shp)

Explanation of Analysis for Sub Aquatic Vegetation

- Since there is so little marine SAV, the CHCT decided that all of this habitat should be considered a priority. Therefore, habitat prioritization analyses were only performed on brackish and freshwater SAV.
- When searching for brackish and freshwater SAV, the CHCT wanted to locate SAV that were (1) at least 1 mile from dredge areas, boat ramps, and marinas (because habitat closer than one mile may be negatively impacted by activities in these areas), and (2) within 2 miles of protected areas (in the hope of expanding these areas and locating SAV that is as healthy as possible).
- Individual data sets are available in the Habitat Mapper for users to view alongside the prioritized habitats. These data sets include bathymetry data (to help users identify areas that have appropriate depth—less than 2 meters—for SAV growth) and marine, freshwater, brackish, and invasive SAV that were parsed out.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Sub Aquatic Vegetation

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 Benthic data, including 2002 SAV data	Marine SAV
(Benthic_draft_4-13-09.shp)	(Marine_SAV.shp)
 Boat ramps and marinas	Invasive SAV
(ramp_marina_srvy_03.shp)	(SAV_invasive_shp_1.shp)
 Dredge locations	Bathymetry
(Dredge.shp)	(bathy_vect.shp)
 Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Sub Aquatic Vegetation.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *Benthic_draft_4-13-09*. Select the Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*. Click *Next*.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 8 SAV Brackish
 - 9 SAV Fresh
 - 10 SAV-Marine

Click Next.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as *SAV_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Note: To create the marine SAV file, select all marine SAV, extract selected, and export the shapefile. Marine SAV were not prioritized; these were considered a standalone priority.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

Note: Perform the following steps for Freshwater and Brackish habitats only.

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose SAV mod1.

Choose distance units: feet. Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat. Click Next.

- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose distance to. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose ramp marina srvy03. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_ramp_marina_srvy03*. Click OK.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose distance to. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *Dredge*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *Distance To Dredge*. Click OK.
 - iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose distance to. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *prot_land_Mob_Bald*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_prot_land_Mob_Bald*. Click OK.
- d. Save result as *SAV_mod2*.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose SAV_mod2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *dt_ramp_marina_srvy03*. Select 5280 feet and greater. Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Apply.

2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *Distance_To_Dredge*.

Select 5280 feet and greater.

Insert an AND statement.

Click *Add Selection to Query*.

Click Verify.

Click *Apply*.

3. From the Field dropdown menu, choose dt prot land Mob Bald.

Select 1–10,560 feet.

Insert an AND statement.

Click Add Selection to Query.

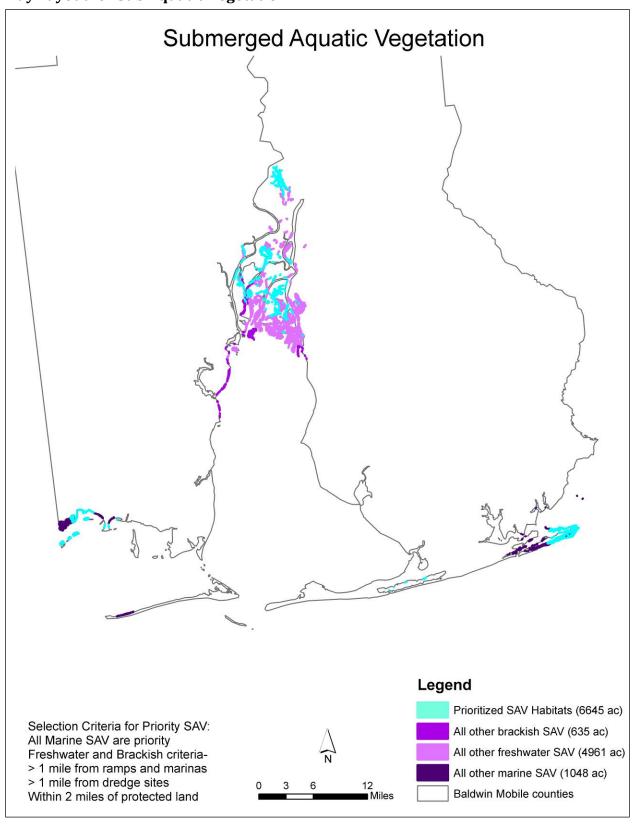
Click Verify.

Click Apply.

4. Save result as *SAV_Mod3*.

5. Click OK.

May Layout for Sub Aquatic Vegetation



Oyster Reefs

Summary Table for Oyster Reefs

Goal: Identify priority oyster reef habitat. (The CHCT decided that all data for this goal should be viewable and that no analysis should be performed.)

Objectives	Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify current locations of oyster reefs in Mobile Bay	Benthic data (Benthic_draft_4-13-09.shp)
	1995 & 2001 delineated oysters (oyster.shp)
	Historical oysters (oyster_1968.shp)
	Fossilized oysters (Sediment.shp)
Identify oyster reefs that are near developed areas	Developed lands (developed.shp)
Identify ideal depth for oysters	3-4 meters depth - Bathymetry (bathy_vect.shp)
Identify appropriate substrate for oysters	Sediment (Sediment.shp)

Explanation of Analysis for Oyster Reefs

- Very little data on oyster habitat is available; therefore, all oyster habitats were considered priority by the CHCT and no analyses were performed on this data.
- Individual data sets are available in the Habitat Mapper for users to view alongside the prioritized habitats. These data sets include bathymetry data (to help users identify areas that have appropriate depth, 3–4 meters, for oyster growth), a sediment file to locate appropriate substrate (hard surfaces) for oysters, and data on developed areas. Oyster reefs near developed areas may offer filtration to the runoff there, but may be less healthy than oyster beds further from development.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Oyster Reefs

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper	
	• 1995 and 2001 delineated oysters (oyster.shp)	
	• Sediment with fossilized oysters (Sediment.shp)	
	Benthic data (Benthic_draft_4-13-09.shp)	
	Bathymetry (bathy_vect.shp)	
	 Developed lands (developed.shp) 	
	Historical oysters (oyster_1968.shp)	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Oyster Reefs.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *Benthic_draft_4-13-09*. Select the Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*. Click *Next*.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*. Check the box next to the following land cover class:

6 – Oyster Reef Click *Next*.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save result as *oyster_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Note: No additional habitat prioritization analyses were completed. Due to the limited oyster data, all oyster habitats were considered priority.

Map Layout for Oyster Reefs



Longleaf Pine

Summary Table for Longleaf Pine

Goal: Identify priority longleaf pine habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify longleaf pine habitat		Simple habitat classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Identify longleaf pine open understory	Only for viewing (not for analysis)	Unique habitat classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Identify longleaf pine habitat near protected areas	Within 1 mile (5,280 feet)	Distance to protected areas	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	
Identify clumped patches of longleaf pine habitat	Between 0–147 feet	Nearest neighbor	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	

Explanation of Analysis for Longleaf Pine

- Longleaf pine habitat with open understory is classic longleaf pine habitat, and the CHCT wanted to identify this priority habitat.
- Other longleaf pine habitat identified in the GAP data may contain mixed hardwoods or mixed pine. Of the mixed longleaf habitats, the CHCT wanted to identify those within 1 mile of currently protected lands—in hopes of expanding these lands in the future and for the purposes of fire management. Additionally, the CHCT wanted to locate longleaf pine habitat that was within 147 feet of other longleaf habitat. (Initially, the CHCT had examined habitat within 150 feet, but this selection was more broad than desired.)
- No additional data was identified for inclusion in the Habitat Mapper.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Longleaf Pine

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) 	
 Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Open Understory Longleaf Pine.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Simple*. Check the box next to the following land cover class:

17 – East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland – Open Understory Modifier Click *Next*.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save result as *ll_pine_open_understory* click *Finish*.

Note: This file was only used for viewing purposes, not for analysis.

- 2. Classify all possible Longleaf Pine.
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Value*.
 From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.
 Click *Generate Values*.
 Click *Next*.
 - d. Select the Classification Type *Simple*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 13 East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland Offsite Hardwood Modifier
 - 16 East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland Loblolly Modifier

17 – East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland – Open Understory Modifier Click *Next*.

- 3. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- 4. Save result as *longleaf_pine_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *longleaf_pine_mod1*.

Choose distance units: feet.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

- b. Landscape analysis: click on *Nearest Neighbor*. Click *Next*.
- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *prot_land_Mob_Bald*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*.
 Click *OK*.
- 2. Save result as GP_LL_Pine_06_22_09_run2_mod2.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_LL_Pine_06_22_09_run2_mod2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*.

Select 0-5280 feet.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an *OR* statement (do not apply the query yet).

2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *NNeighbor*.

Select 0-147 feet.

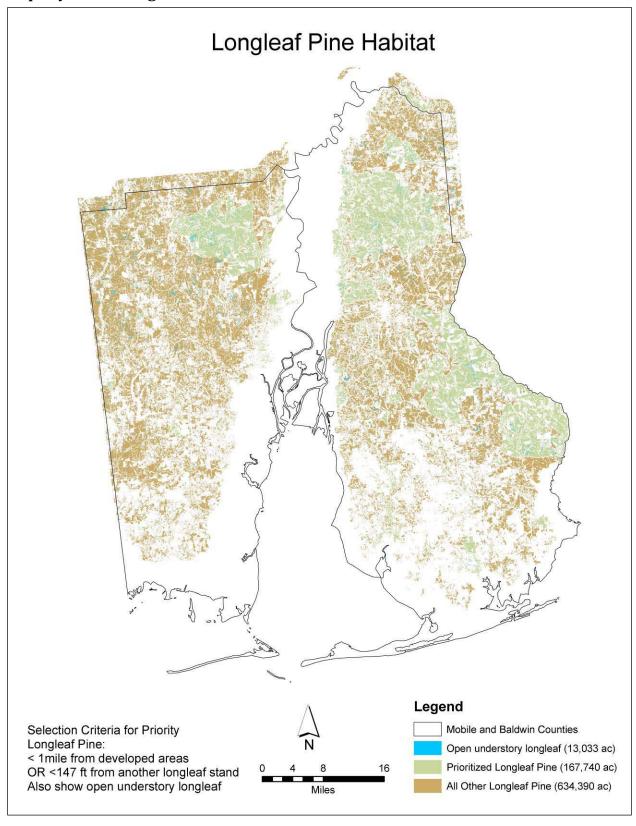
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click Apply.

- 3. Save result as GP LL Pine pt NN 06 23 09 mod3.
- 4. Click *OK*.

Map Layout for Longleaf Pine



Pine Savannah

Summary Table for Pine Savannah

Goal: Identify priority pine savannah habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify pine savannah habitat		Grouped classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Identify large patches of pine savannah habitat	Patches 0-500 acres	Size	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Identify pine savannah habitat near protected areas	Within 1/2 mile	Distance to protected areas	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	

Explanation of Analysis for Pine Savannah

- Pine savannah habitat identified in the GAP data contained some scrub/shrub, mixed pine flatwoods, and savannah and wet prairie. Of the mixed pine savannah habitats, the CHCT wanted to identify large habitat patches within 1/2 mile of currently protected lands—in hopes of expanding these lands in the future.
- No additional data was identified for inclusion in the Habitat Mapper.

Geopatial Analysis Instructions for Pine Savannah

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
 GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img) 	
 Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Pine Savannah
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.
 - c. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose Value.

From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.

Click Generate Values.

Click Next.

- d. Select Classification Type *Simple*. Check the boxes next to the following land cover classes:
 - 18 Successional Scrub/Shrub (Clear Cut)
 - 20 Successional Scrub/Shrub (Other)
 - 28 East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods Offsite Hardwood Modifier
 - 29 East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods Open Understory Modifier
 - 32 East Gulf Coastal Plain Treeless Savannah and Wet Prairie Click *Next*.
- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save rsults as *pine_savannah_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *pine_savannah_mod1*.

Choose distance units: feet.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.

Click Next.

- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *prot_land_Mob_Bald*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*.
 Click *OK*.
- d. Save result as *GP_Pine_Savannah_06_16_09_mod2*.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_Pine_Savannah_06_16_09_mod2*. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *area acre*.

Select 0-500 acres.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an *OR* statement (do not apply the query yet).

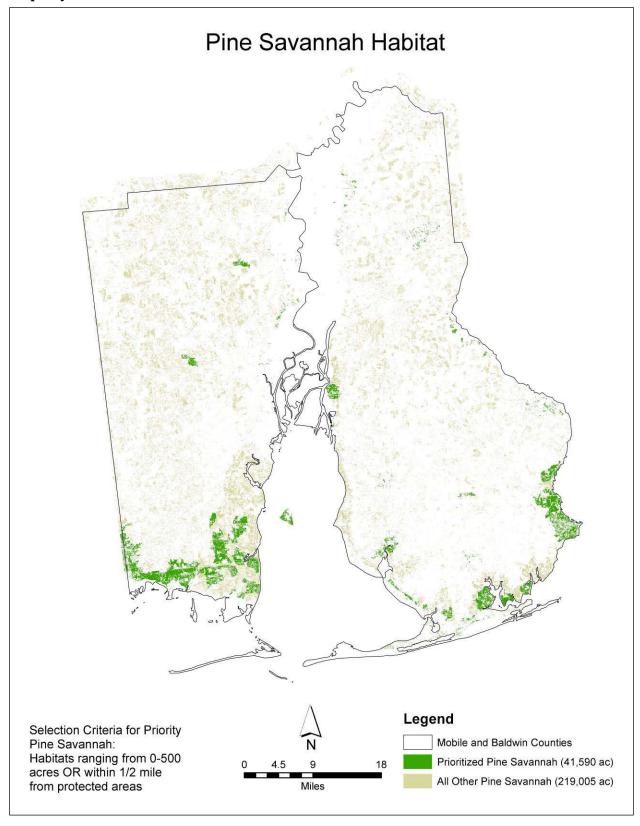
2. From the Field dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*. Select *0-2640 feet*.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Click *Verify*. Click *Apply*.

- 3. Save result as *GP_Pine_Savannah_06_22_09_final_Prioritization*.
- 4. Click *OK*.

Map Layout for Pine Savannah



Maritime Forest

Summary Table for Maritime Forest

Goal: Identify priority maritime forest habitat.

Objectives	Selection Criteria	HPP Analyses	Available Data for Analyses	Related Data for Habitat Mapper
Identify maritime forest habitat		Unique classification	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Identify maritime forest habitat adjacent to beach and dune habitat	Within 100 feet	Distance to	Beach and dune habitat (Beach_Dune_mod2.shp)	
Identify maritime forest habitat adjacent to marsh habitat	Within 100 feet	Distance to	Marsh habitat (intertidal_mod2_update2.shp)	
Identify maritime forest habitat near protected areas	Within 1,320 feet (.25 miles)	Distance to	Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	
Identify large patches of maritime forest habitat	10 acres or greater	Size	Land cover (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	

Explanation of Analysis for Maritime Forest

- The CHCT wanted to locate maritime forest habitat patches that were adjacent to beach, dune, and marsh habitat to allow for migration of these habitats with sea level rise. They also wanted to identify large habitat patches within ¼ miles of currently protected lands—in hopes of expanding these lands in the future.
- No additional data was identified for inclusion in the Habitat Mapper.

Geospatial Analysis Instructions for Maritime Forest

Data Used For Analysis	Related Data For Habitat Mapper
GAP land cover updated with C-CAP (gap_update_2005_impervious.img)	
Protected lands (prot_land_Mob_Bald.shp)	
 Beach and dune habitat (Beach_Dune_mod2.shp) 	
 Intertidal marsh habitat (intertidal_mod2_update2.shp) 	

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Maritime Forest
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.

g. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose gap_update_2005_impervious.img.
 Select the Analysis Extent Extent of the above selected land cover layer.
 Click Next.

h. From the Value field dropdown menu, choose Value.

From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *class_name*.

Click Generate Values.

Click Next.

i. Select Classification Type *Simple*. Check the box next to the following land cover class:

15 – East Gulf Coastal Plain Maritime Forest Click *Next*.

- b. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- c. Save results as *maritime_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *maritime_mod1*.

Choose distance units: feet.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

b. Landscape analysis: the CHCT decided that landscape analyses were not necessary for this habitat.

Click Next.

- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *prot_land_Mob_Bald*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*.
 Click *OK*.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *beach_dune*.From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_bd*.Click *OK*.
 - iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *distance to*.From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_marsh*.From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_marsh*.Click *OK*.

d. Save result as *GP_maritime_mod2_june_run2*.

Step 3: Data Exploration (HPP Module 3)

1. From the Map layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_maritime_mod2_june_run2*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_bd*.

Select 0-100 feet.

Select 0-100 feet.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an *OR* statement (do not apply the query yet).

2. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_marsh*.

Select 0-100 feet.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an *OR* statement (do not apply the query yet).

3. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *dt_pt*.

Select 0-1320 feet.

Click Add Selection to Query.

Insert an AND statement (do not apply the query yet).

4. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose area_acre.

Select >10 acres.

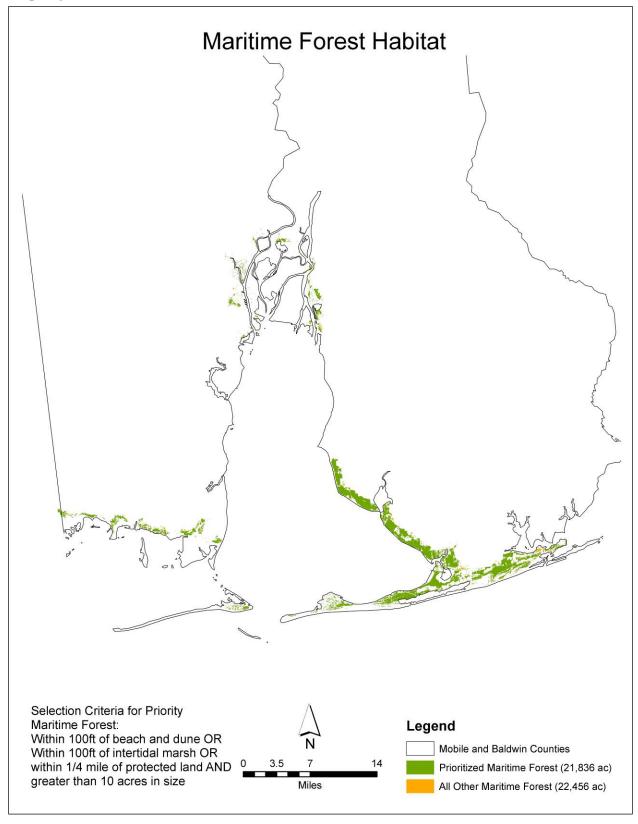
Click Add Selection to Query.

Click Verify.

Click *Apply*.

- 5. Save result as *GP_maritime_final_prioritization_6_22_09*.
- 6. Click *OK*.

Map Layout for Maritime Forest



Appendix B: Parcel Assessment Details

Note that the intended use of the online Habitat Mapper is to identify landscape-level patterns and major functional niches for conservation and land use planning applications. The parcel assessment provided should be used only as a screening-level tool to aid in decision making. The online maps represent the best available data at the time of tool development. They are not a substitute for site surveys and all features should be verified with a site visit.

Mobile County Parcels Geospatial Analysis Instructions

Data Used For Analysis

- Mobile County Parcels (parcel_ownership)
- Prioritized Beach and Dune (BeachDune_mod3_update)
- Prioritized Pine Savannah (GP Pine Savannah 06 22 09 final Prioritization)
- Prioritized Longleaf Pine (GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN_06_23_09_mod3)
- Longleaf Pine Open Understory (*Il_pine_open_understory*)
- Prioritized Maritime Forest (GP_maritime_final_prioritization_6_22_09)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Storm Protection (intertidal_mod3_dev)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Species Protection (intertidal mod3 species)
- Prioritized Sub Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) (SAV_Mod3)
- Marine SAV (Marine_SAV)
- Oyster (*oyster*)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Conservation (for Stream and River protection) (conservation watersheds)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Restoration (for Stream and River protection) (restoration_watersheds)
- Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Conservation (cons_buffers_final)
- Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Restoration (rest_buffers_final)
- Prioritized Freshwater Riverine Wetlands (priority riverine wetlands 1)
- Non-Riverine, Freshwater Wetlands (non_riverine_wetlands)

Step 1: Habitat Classification (Habitat Priority Planner (HPP) Module 1)

- 1. Classify Mobile County Parcels. (Note: To prepare the parcel layer for analysis, the shapefile must be run through the Habitat Classification Module.)
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *parcel_ownership.shp*. Select the Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*.

Click Next.

c. From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *assess_num* (*this is the parcel ID number*).

From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Create Value Field*, based on the class field *Assess_num*.

Click Generate Values

Click Next.

d. Select the Classification Type *Unique*.

Click Select All.

Click Next.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save results as *mobile mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *mobile_mod1*.

Choose distance units: *miles*.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

- b. Landscape analysis: landscape analyses were not necessary for this analysis. Click *Next*.
- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *BeachDune_mod3_update*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_BeachDune*.
 Click *OK*.
 - ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose GP_*Pine_Savannah_06_22_09_final_Prioritization*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_Pine_Sav*. Click *OK*.
 - iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN_06_23_09_mod3*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_longleaf*. Click *OK*.
 - iv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *ll_pine_open_understory*.

From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_ll_pine_open_understory*. Click *OK*.

- v. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_maritime_final_prioritization_6_22_09*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_maritime*. Click *OK*.
- vi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod3_dev*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_ intertidal_mod3_dev*. Click *OK*.
- vii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod3_species*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_intertidal_mod3_species*. Click *OK*.
- viii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *SAV_mod3*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_SAV*. Click *OK*.
 - ix. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *Marine_SAV*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_marine_sav*. Click *OK*.
 - x. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *oyster*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_oyster*. Click *OK*.
 - xi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *conservation_watersheds*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_con_wshed*. Click *OK*.
- xii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *restoration_watersheds*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_rest_wshed*. Click *OK*.
- xiii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *cons_buffers_final*.

From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_con_buffers*. Click *OK*.

- xiv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *rest_buffers_final*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_rest_buffers*. Click *OK*.
- xv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *priority_riverine_wetlands_1*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_riv*. Click *OK*.
- xvi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *non_riverine_wetlands*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_ non_riverine_wetlands*. Click *OK*.
- d. Save result as *mobile_mod2_final*.

Baldwin County Parcels Geospatial Analysis Instructions

Data Used For Analysis

- Baldwin County Parcels (Baldwin_Parcels)
- Prioritized Beach and Dune (BeachDune mod3 update)
- Prioritized Pine Savannah (GP_Pine_Savannah_06_22_09_final_Prioritization)
- Prioritized Longleaf Pine (GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN_06_23_09_mod3)
- Longleaf Pine Open Understory (*II_pine_open_understory*)
- Prioritized Maritime Forest (GP maritime final prioritization 6 22 09)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Storm Protection (intertidal mod3 dev)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Species Protection (intertidal mod3 species)
- Prioritized SAV (SAV Mod3)
- Marine SAV (Marine SAV)
- Oyster (oyster)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Conservation (for Stream and River protection) (conservation watersheds)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Restoration (for Stream and River protection) (restoration watersheds)
- Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Conservation (cons buffers final)
- Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Restoration (rest_buffers_final)
- Prioritized Freshwater Riverine Wetlands (priority riverine wetlands 1)

• Non-Riverine, Freshwater Wetlands (non_riverine_wetlands)

Step 1: Habitat Classification (HPP Module 1)

- 1. Classify Baldwin County Parcels. (Note: To prepare the parcel layer for analysis, the shapefile must be run through the Habitat Classification Module.)
 - a. Select *Create a new habitat patch file*. Click *Next*.
 - b. From the Land cover dataset dropdown menu, choose *Baldwin_Parcels.shp*. Select Analysis Extent *Extent of the above selected land cover layer*. Click *Next*.
 - c. From the Description field dropdown menu, choose *PID* (*this is the parcel ID number*).

From the Value field dropdown menu, choose *Create Value Field*, based on the class field *PID*.

Click Generate Values

Click Next.

d. Select the Classification Type Unique.

Click Select All.

Click Next.

- e. Either create a file geodatabase, or store the output in an existing file geodatabase.
- f. Save the file as *baldwin_mod1* and click *Finish*.

Step 2: Habitat Analysis (HPP Module 2)

- 1. Perform a new habitat analysis.
 - a. From the Habitats layer dropdown menu, choose *baldwin_mod1*.

Choose distance units: miles.

Choose area units: acres.

Click Next.

- b. Landscape analysis: landscape analyses were not necessary for this analysis. Click *Next*.
- c. Click *New* to add a Custom analysis:
 - i. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*.
 From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *BeachDune_mod3_update*.
 From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_BeachDune*.
 Click *OK*.

- ii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose GP_*Pine_Savannah_06_22_09_final_Prioritization*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_Pine_Sav*. Click *OK*.
- iii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN_06_23_09_mod3*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_longleaf*. Click *OK*.
- iv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *ll_pine_open_understory*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_ ll_pine_open_understory*. Click *OK*.
- v. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *GP_maritime_final_prioritization_6_22_09*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_maritime*. Click *OK*.
- vi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod3_dev*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_ intertidal_mod3_dev*. Click *OK*.
- vii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *intertidal_mod3_species*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_intertidal_mod3_species*. Click *OK*.
- viii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *SAV_mod3*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_SAV*. Click *OK*.
- ix. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *Marine_SAV*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_marine_sav*. Click *OK*.
- x. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *oyster*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po oyster*.

Click OK.

- xi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *conservation_watersheds*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_con_wshed*. Click *OK*.
- xii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *restoration_watersheds*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_rest_wshed*. Click *OK*.
- xiii. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *cons_buffers_final*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_con_buffers*. Click *OK*.
- xiv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *rest_buffers_final*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_rest_buffers*. Click *OK*.
- xv. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *priority_riverine_wetlands_1*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_riv*. Click *OK*.
- xvi. From the Analysis type dropdown menu, choose *polygon overlay*. From the Analysis layer dropdown menu, choose *non_riverine_wetlands*. From the Field name dropdown menu, choose *po_non_riverine_wetlands*. Click *OK*.
- d. Save the file as baldwin mod2 final.

Appendix C: Priority Habitats Merge

Data Used For Analysis

- Prioritized Beach and Dune (BeachDune_mod3_update)
- Prioritized Pine Savannah (GP_Pine_Savannah_06_22_09_final_Prioritization)
- Prioritized Longleaf Pine (GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN_06_23_09_mod3)
- Longleaf Pine Open Understory (*Il_pine_open_understory*)
- Prioritized Maritime Forest (GP_maritime_final_prioritization_6_22_09)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Storm Protection (intertidal_mod3_dev)
- Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats for Species Protection (intertidal_mod3_species)
- Prioritized Sub Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) (SAV_Mod3)
- Marine SAV (Marine_SAV)
- Oyster (*oyster*)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Conservation (for Stream and River protection) (conservation watersheds)
- Prioritized Watersheds for Restoration (for Stream and River protection) (restoration_watersheds)
- Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Conservation (cons buffers final)
- Prioritized Stream Riparian for Restoration (rest_buffers_final)
- Prioritized Freshwater Riverine Wetlands (priority_riverine_wetlands_1)
- Non-Riverine, Freshwater Wetlands (non_riverine_wetlands)

Run the Merge Tool

- 1. In ArcGIS, open the Toolbox.
- 2. Within the Data Management Tools, under the General section, select the Merge tool.
- 3. Add all of the priority habitats in the above list to the Merge tool.
- 4. Name the output *all_habitat_final*.

Appendix D: Loading Data into a Spatial Data Engine (SDE) Database

A SDE database was created to store all of the HPP analysis results and additional data layers to be viewed in the Habitat Mapper. Since the base layers (streets, hybrid, and imagery) for the Habitat Mapper are streaming directly from ESRI's website and have their own geographic projection (WGS 1984), we had to make sure that HPP results and additional data layers being viewed in the Habitat Mapper were also in the same projection. The following are instructions for loading the data into the SDE database and at the same time, projecting the data using ESRI's data projection.

- 1. In ArcCatalog or ArcGIS, open the Toolbox, select Data Management Tools, select Projections and Transformations, select Features, and select Batch Project (for multiple data layers) or Project (for single data layers).
- 2. Add all Input Datasets in which you need to change the projection.
- 3. Specify an Output Workspace, which should be your SDE database location.
- 4. Select an Output Coordinate System (XY coordinate system).
 - a. Click on Select (predefined coordinate system).
 - b. Click on the Geographic Coordinate Systems folder.
 - c. Click on World.
 - d. Select WGS 1984.prj, click Add, and click OK.
- 5. Click OK in the Batch Project or Project window.

If you do not need to change your data projections, as we did in the steps above, then you can just import the data into SDE by right clicking on the SDE database, selecting Import, and following similar instructions of adding all the Input Datasets and specifying an Output Geodatabase (SDE database location).

Appendix E: Aliases

The Alabama Habitat Mapper allows users to view additional data sets alongside the prioritized habitats that were identified using Habitat Priority Planner tool. This appendix provides details about how the layers, file names, and attributes in the Habitat Mapper relate to one another.

Intuitive data layer names were renamed in the ArcGIS (.MXD) file used to create the Alabama Habitat Mapper—as were attribute field names in the database accessed by the Habitat Mapper. To limit the attributes displayed with the Habitat Mapper Identify Function (so that only useful attributes are shown to the end user), attribute fields were checked on or off in the .MXD file.

Below are the steps taken to alias and display appropriate attributes in the Habitat Mapper. Some of this work can be avoided if Geographic Information System (GIS) users use naming conventions that match what is to be displayed in the Habitat Mapper.

1. Alias attribute field names:

- a. In the database used for the Habitat Mapper, right-click on a data layer and go to Properties.
- b. Select a field from the Field Name box that you would like to alias.
- c. In the Field Properties box, click on the field name to edit it.
- d. Change the field name to what should be displayed in the Habitat Mapper.

2. Select aliases for display in the Habitat Mapper:

- a. In the .MXD used to create the Habitat Mapper, right-click on a data layer and go to Properties.
- b. Click on the Fields tab and check the box next to the attributes you would like displayed in the Habitat Mapper.

Data Layer Name Displayed in Habitat Mapper	Data Layer File Name in Database	Attribute Fields Checked in .MXD for Habitat Mapper Identify Function	Aliases for Attribute Fields for Habitat Mapper Identify Function		
MS-AL Conservation and Restoration Projects	Linked and displayed directly from MS-AL Habitats Database				
Coastal Habitats and	Coastal Habitats and Prioritized Areas				
All Prioritized Habitats	all_habitat_final	cls_name	Habitat Name		
Freshwater Wetlands					
Prioritized Riverine Freshwater Wetlands	priority_riverine_ wetlands_1	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
All Nonriverine Freshwater Wetlands	non_riverine_ wetlands	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		

	r	1					
All Riverine Freshwater Wetlands	riverine_wetlands_ mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name				
Rivers and Streams (v	Rivers and Streams (via Watersheds Analysis)						
Prioritized Watersheds for River and Stream Conservation	conservation_ watersheds	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, PO_impervious_pct, PA_303dstreams	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Percent of Impervious Overlay, Presence/Absence of Impaired Streams				
Prioritized Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration	restoration_ watersheds	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, PO_impervious_pct, PA_303dstreams	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Percent of Impervious Overlay, Presence/Absence of Impaired Streams				
All Watersheds	watersheds_mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name				
Riparian Buffer							
Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Conservation	cons_buffers_final	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, poly_over_cons_watshds_ Pct	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Percent Overlay with Priority Conservation Watersheds				
Prioritized Riparian Buffers for Restoration	rest_buffers_final	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, poly_over_rest_watshds_ Pct	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Percent Overlay with Priority Restoration Watersheds				
30-Meter Riparian Buffer	grouped_30m_ buf_mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name				
Beach and Dune							
Prioritized Beach and Dune	BeachDune_ mod3_update	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, PA_ABM_Hab_Range, PA_Sea_Turtle, Poly_Over_CCL_Clipper_ Pct, dt_mari_simple_mod1	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Presence/Absence Alabama Beach Mouse, Presence/Absence Sea Turtle, Percent Overlay with Construction Line, Distance to Maritime Forest				
All Beach and Dune	Beach_Dune_ mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name				
Intertidal Marshes and Flats							
Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats – Hazard Protection	intertidal_mod3_ dev	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, DT_dev, dt_100_yr_flood	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Distance to Developed Areas, Distance to 100 Year Flood				
Prioritized Intertidal Marshes and Flats – Natural Resource Conservation	intertidal_mod3_ species	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, PA_spec_of_con, dt_prot_land_Mob_Bald	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Presence/Absence Species of Concern, Distance to Protected Areas				
All Intertidal Marshes and Flats	intertidal_mod2_ update2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name				

Sub Aquatic Vegetation	on				
Prioritized Sub Aquatic Vegetation	SAV_mod3	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, dt_ramp_marina_srvy03, Distance_To_Dredge, dt_prot_land_Mob_Bald	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Distance to Boat Ramps and Marinas 2003, Distance to Dredge Areas, Distance to Protected Lands		
Marine Sub Aquatic Vegetation	Marine_SAV	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
All Sub Aquatic Vegetation	SAV_Mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
Invasive Sub Aquatic Vegetation	SAV_invasive_ shp_1	Shape_area, acres	Square Meters, Acres		
Oyster Reef					
All Oyster Reefs	oyster	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
Historical Oysters	oyster_1968	name, acres	Name, Acres		
Longleaf Pine					
Prioritized Longleaf Pine	GP_LL_Pine_pt_NN _6_23_09_mod3	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, dt_pt, NNeighbor	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Distance to Protected Areas, Nearest Like Habitat Patch		
Longleaf Pine Open Understory	II_pine_open_ understory	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
All Longleaf Pine	GP_LL_Pine_6_22_ 09_run2_mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
Pine Savannah					
Prioritized Pine Savannah	GP_Pine_Savannah _6_22_09_final_ Prioritization	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, dt_pt	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Distance to Protected Areas		
All Pine Savannah	GP_Pine_Savannah _6_16_09_mod2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		
Maritime Forest					
Prioritized Maritime Forest	GP_maritime_final _prioritization_ 6_22_09	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, dt_bd, dt_marsh, dt_pt	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name, Distance to Beach and Dune, Distance to Marsh, Distance to Protected Areas		
All Maritime Forest	GP_maritime_ mod2_june_run2	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Habitat Name		

Coastal Habitats Base	Data		
Bathymetry	bathy_vect	GRIDCODE	Depth Zone
Bay Sediments	Sediment	name	Sediment Type
Land Cover	gap_update_2005_ impervious		
Political Boundaries			
Mobile County Parcels	mobile_mod2_final	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, (for the following attribute fields, only identify those that are present within the parcel) po_beach_dune, po_beach_dune_Pct, po_rip_cons, po_rip_cons_Pct, po_longleaf, po_longleaf_Pct, po_maritime, po_maritime_Pct, po_maritime, po_maritime_Pct, po_intertidal_dev, po_intertidal_dev, po_intertidal_species, po_intertidal_species, po_intertidal_species_Pct, po_non_riverine_wetl_Pct, po_oyster, po_oyster_Pct, po_ll_pine_open_understory, po_ll_pine_open_understory, po_ll_pine_open_understory, po_ll_pine_sAV_Pct, po_oyster_1968, po_oyster_1968, po_oyster_1968, po_cons_wshed, po_cons_wshed, po_rest_wshed, po_rest_wshed, po_rest_wshed_Pct, po_rest_buf, po_rest_buf, po_rest_buf_Pct, po_rest_buf, po_rest_buf_Pct, po_SAV_Pct	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Parcel ID, (for the following attribute fields, only identify those that are present within the parcel) Acreage Priority Beach and Dune, Percent Priority Beach and Dune, Acreage Priority Riparian Buffers for Conservation, Percent Priority Riparian Buffers for Conservation, Acreage Priority Longleaf, Percent Priority Longleaf Pine, Acreage Priority Maritime Forest, Percent Priority Maritime Forest, Acreage Priority Pine Savannah, Percent Priority Pine Savannah, Acreage Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Hazard Protection, Percent Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Hazard Protection, Acreage Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Natural Resource Conservation, Percent Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flat - Natural Resource Conservation, Acreage Priority Non- Riverine Wetlands, Percent Priority Non-Riverine Wetlands, Acreage Priority Oyster Reefs, Percent Priority Oysters Reefs, Acreage Longleaf Pine Open Understory, Percent Priority Longleaf Pine Open Understory, Acreage Marine Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Percent Marine Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Acreage Historical Oysters, Percent

			Historical Oysters, Acreage Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Conservation, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Conservation, Acreage Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Acreage Priority Riverine Freshwater Wetlands, Percent Priority Riverine Freshwater Wetlands, Acreage Priority Riparian Buffers for Restoration, Percent Priority Riparian Buffers for
			Restoration, Acreage Priority Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Percent Priority Sub Aquatic Vegetation
Baldwin County Parcels	baldwin_mod2_final	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare, cls_name, (for the following attribute fields, only identify those that are present within the parcel) po_beach_dune, po_beach_dune_Pct, po_rip_cons, po_rip_cons_Pct, po_longleaf, po_longleaf_Pct, po_maritime, po_maritime_Pct, po_maritime, po_maritime_Pct, po_intertidal_dev, po_intertidal_dev, po_intertidal_species, po_intertidal_species_Pct, po_non_riverine_wetl_Pct, po_oyster, po_oyster_Pct, po_ll_pine_open_understory, po_ll_pine_open_understory_Pct, po_Marine_SAV_Pct, po_oyster_1968, po_oyster_1968, po_oyster_1968, po_cons_wshed, po_cons_wshed, po_rest_wshed_Pct, po_rest_wshed_Pct, Po_riv_aug, PO_riv_aug_Pct, po_rest_buf, po_rest_buf_Pct,	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares, Parcel ID, (for the following attribute fields, only identify those that are present within the parcel) Acreage Priority Beach and Dune, Percent Priority Beach and Dune, Acreage Priority Riparian Buffers for Conservation, Percent Priority Riparian Buffers for Conservation, Acreage Priority Longleaf, Percent Priority Longleaf Pine, Acreage Priority Maritime Forest, Percent Priority Maritime Forest, Acreage Priority Pine Savannah, Percent Priority Pine Savannah, Acreage Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Hazard Protection, Percent Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Hazard Protection, Acreage Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flats - Natural Resource Conservation, Percent Priority Intertidal Marshes and Flat - Natural Resource Conservation,

Mobile and Baldwin	Baldwin_Mobile_	po_SAV, po_SAV_Pct	Acreage Priority Non-Riverine Wetlands, Percent Priority Non-Riverine Wetlands, Acreage Priority Oyster Reefs, Percent Priority Oysters Reefs, Acreage Longleaf Pine Open Understory, Percent Priority Longleaf Pine Open Understory, Acreage Marine Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Percent Marine Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Acreage Historical Oysters, Percent Historical Oysters, Acreage Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Conservation, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Conservation, Acreage Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Percent Priority Watersheds for River and Stream Restoration, Acreage Priority Riverine Freshwater Wetlands, Percent Priority Riverine Freshwater Wetlands, Acreage Priority Riparian Buffers for Restoration, Percent Priority Riparian Buffers for Restoration, Acreage Priority Sub Aquatic Vegetation, Percent Priority Sub Aquatic Vegetation
County Boundaries Buffered Mobile and	counties Mobile_Baldwin_3k		
Baldwin County Boundaries			
Construction Control Line	cclddline1	Const_Con_Line	Construction Control Line
FEMA Flood Zones	year_flood	Zone_	Flood Zone

Human Uses					
Dredge Locations	Dredge	jobname	Dredge Site		
Drinking Water Supply Sites	drinkwater_supply_ site	name, WUN	Name, Water Service		
Dams	dams	dam_name, river, prm_purpose, owner	Dam Name, River, Primary Purpose, Owner		
Boat Ramps and Marinas	ramp_marina_ srvy03	ramp_marina	Boat Ramps and Marinas		
Shipping Lanes	Shippinglanes_Clip	linkname	Name		
Impervious Surface	impervious_2001	Impervious_Surface	Impervious Surface		
Developed Areas	developed	area_size, area_acre, area_hectare	Square Meters, Acres, Hectares		
Wellhead Protected Areas	Wellhd_Protect_area	P_W_S, source	Water Service, Water Source		
Other Ecological Attributes					
Protected Lands	prot_land_Mob_Bald	name, owner_mgr	Site name, Owner/Manager		
Impaired Streams	mob_bal_303d_line	waterbody, causes, sources	Waterbody, Causes, Sources		
Sea Turtle Nesting Locations	Sea_Turtle	Sea_Turtle_Nest_Sites	Sea Turtle Nesting Locations		
Alabama Beach Mouse Habitat	ABM_Habitat_Range	ABMhab	Alabama Beach Mouse Habitat		
Streams and Rivers	All_Water_Alabama_ Clip	name, class	Stream Name, Stream Class		
TNC Aquatic Priority Areas	TNC_aquatic_priority	ca_name	Site Name		
TNC Terrestrial Priority Areas	TNC_terr_priority	sitename	Site Name		
Offshore Sediment	Surf_sed_Lith	LITH	Sediment Type		
2005 C-CAP Land Cover	CCAP_PRJ_2005				
2001 Alabama GAP Land Cover	GAP_PRJ_2001				